

From: Hari Nair
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 9:50pm
Subject: Comment on anti-trust settlement

Dear Sirs,

I am deeply concerned with the proposed settlement the government has offered to end the anti-trust case with Microsoft. As no doubt many other letters have pointed out, the settlement does nothing to prevent further monopoly abuses by Microsoft.

This is dangerous because Microsoft, having an entrenched monopoly on desktop computer operating systems, is now extending that monopoly to other areas, with the pocket PC, the Xbox, and their Windows Media format.

The internet was founded on open standards beyond the control of any one organization. I am worried that Microsoft will hijack the internet as its new cash cow if they continue to operate as they have in the past.

If I may suggest a remedy, I would hope the government would begin to encourage the use of non-Microsoft products in its own agencies. Imposing behavioral restrictions on Microsoft isn't likely to accomplish anything, as they have shown little regard such remedies in the past. The government is a powerful driver of the market, and can level the playing field much more easily in a constructive way by choosing competing products which can do the job as well.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,
Hari Nair

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